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Patent

Docket No.: 50371USA3D

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Andrew J. Onderkirk et al.

Serial No.: 09/013,819
Filed: January 27, 1998
For: OPTICAL POLARIZER

Group Art Unit: 2872

Examiner: Shafer

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response is the Office Action mailed May 19, 1999 please cancel claims 10-12 and 15-43 and amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) An optical polarizer, comprising:
a polymeric reflective polarizer including first and second polymeric materials at least one of the first and second polymeric materials being birefringent such that a refractive index difference between the first and second polymeric materials for light having a first polarization state is large enough to substantially reflect the light having the first polarization state and a refractive index difference between the first and second polymeric materials for light having a second polarization state is small enough to substantially transmit the light having the second polarization state; and

an absorbing polarizer disposed in close proximity to the polymeric reflective polarizer and aligned to substantially absorb light of the first polarization state and to [reflect] substantially transmit light of the second polarization state, the absorbing polarizer directly receiving light which is not reflected by the polymeric reflective polarizer.

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Date: 7/22/99

Signature

Shafer

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3. (Amended) An optical polarizer as recited in claim [3] 2,
comprising a multilayer stack of alternating layers of the first and second
polymeric materials forming the reflective polarizer and a polymeric layer of
material mixed with a dichroic dye forming the absorbing polarizer.

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5. (Amended) An optical polarizer as recited in claim [4] 1,
wherein the absorbing polarizer comprises a polymeric layer of material mixed
with a dichroic dye.

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13. (Amended) An [The] optical polarizer [of claim 1,] comprising:
a reflective polarizer including at least one material having
anisotropic refractive indices disposed such that light having a first polarization
state is substantially reflected and light having a second polarization state is
substantially transmitted; and

[wherein the] a dichroic polarizer [is positioned] bonded to at least
one side of the reflective polarizer to provide antireflection on the at least one side
of the reflective polarizer.

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14. (Amended) The optical polarizer of claim 13, wherein the
[dichroic] absorbing polarizer is bonded to the reflective polarizer.

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Please add the following new claims:

44. (New) An optical polarizer as recited in claim 13, wherein
iridescence of light reflected by the at least one side of the reflective polarizer is
reduced by attenuation of the reflected light by the dichroic polarizer.

45. (New) An optical polarizer as recited in claim 13, wherein the
reflective polarizer comprises a multilayer stack of alternating layers of a first
polymeric material having anisotropic refractive indices and a second polymeric
material.